

More specifically, in both claims 21 and 22, the protrusion of the cover serves to seal the channel off by providing a channel ceiling that is opposite the channel floor. None of the "protrusions" that are formed as part of the prior art covers accomplish or perform this function. In the present invention, the cover protrusion is intimately placed either between inner surfaces of the sidewalls (claim 21) to seal the channel or a pair of protrusions are placed in intimate contact with the outer surfaces of the raised sidewalls to seal the channel by providing a channel ceiling. In the Jedrzejewski et al. reference, the passageway (channel) formed in the pillars are simply not enclosed by the cover due to the cover providing a channel ceiling by mating with the raised sidewalls.

Based on the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of these claims are in order.

Claims 2-4, 9-18, 20-23, 25-27, 29-30, and 38-39 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed independent claim 1, as amended.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: November 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1.

This sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.